

The quality of oral chemotherapy prescribing in oncohaematological outpatients

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Background

Nowadays, in our health area, most of the oral antineoplastic drugs prescribed to outpatients are dispensed in hospital pharmacy services. Patients receiving this kind of drugs are susceptible of suffering adverse events (AE) due to medication errors (ME).

Purpose

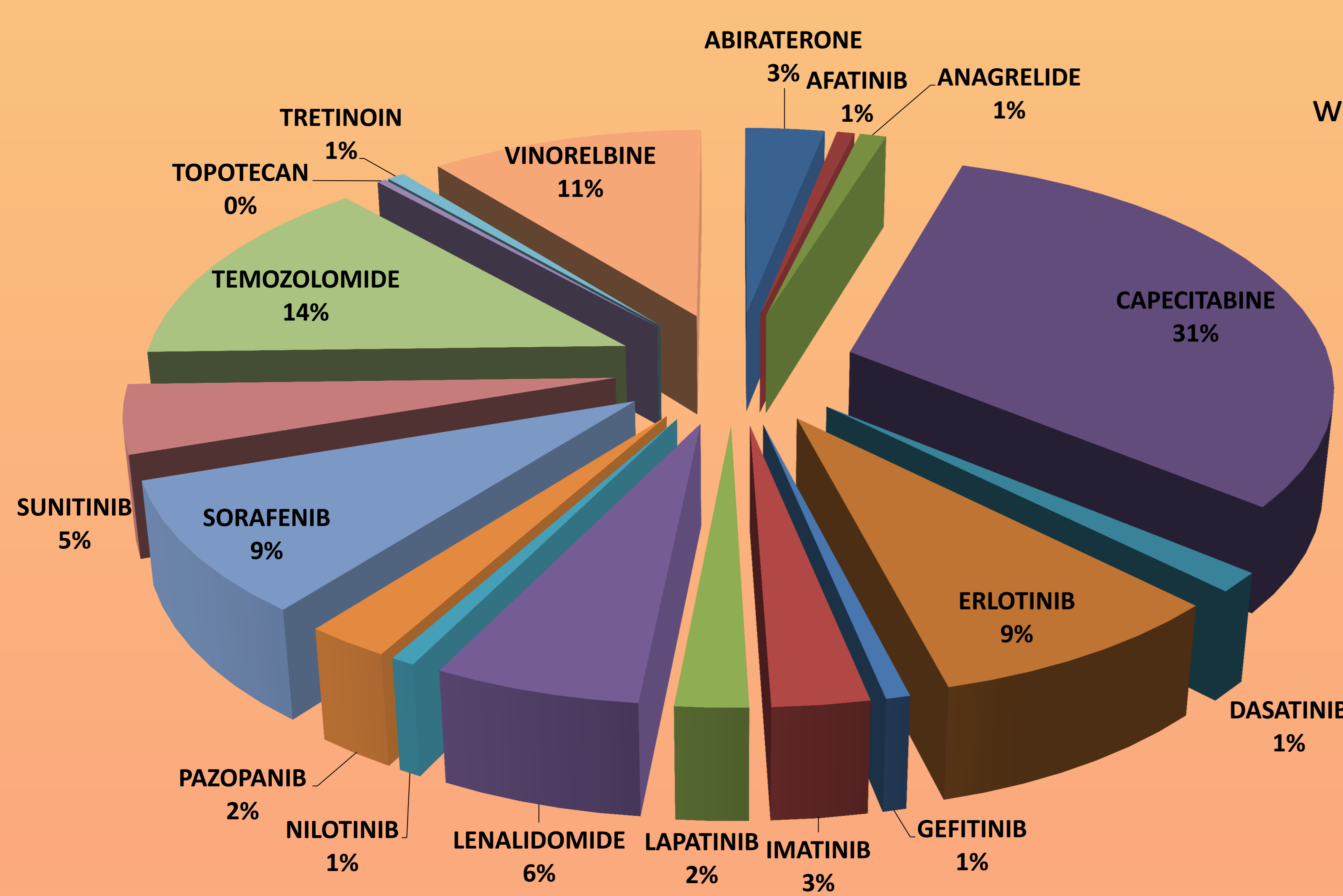
Evaluation of oral chemotherapy drug prescription (OCDP) quality in oncohematological outpatients.

Methods

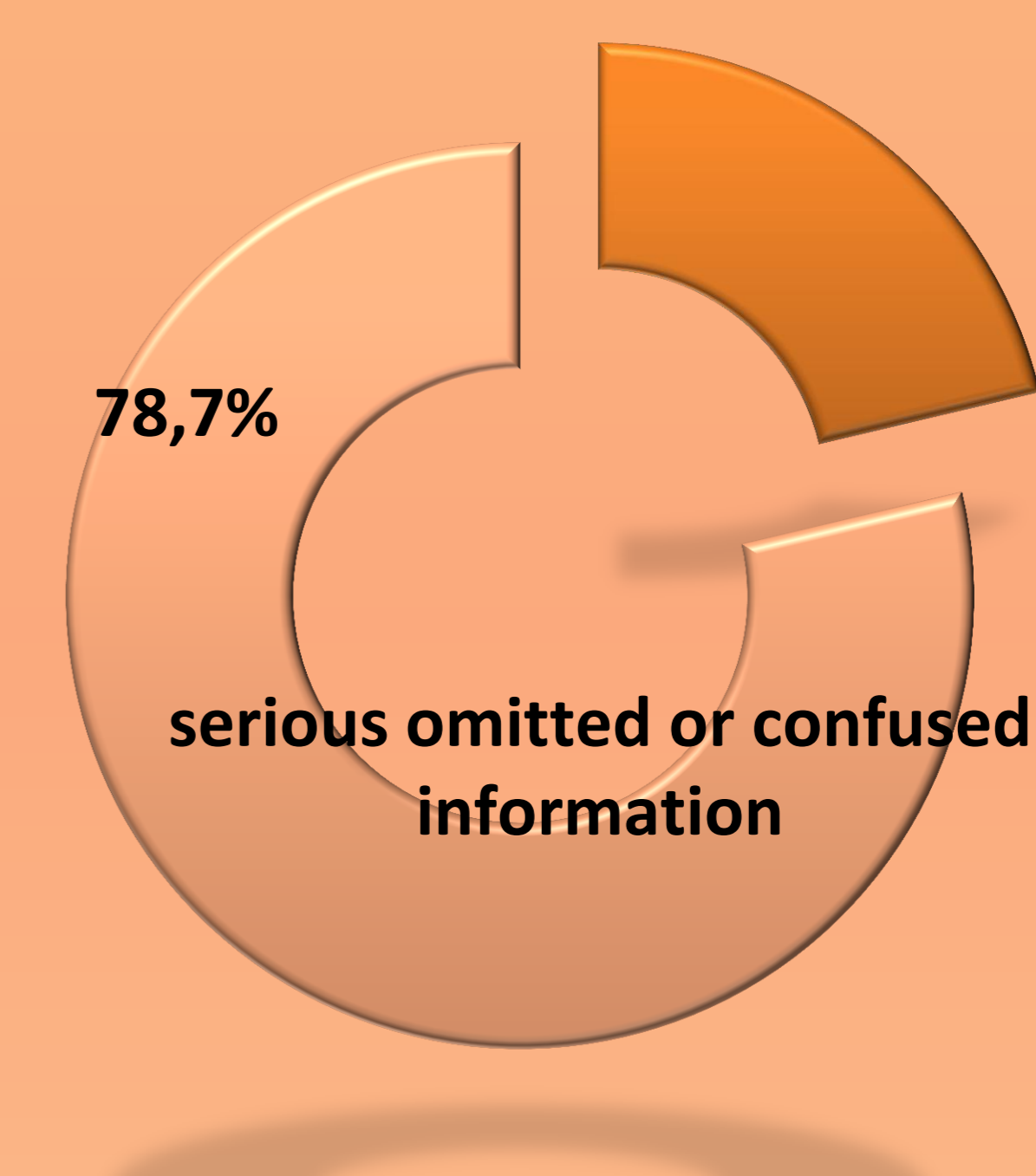
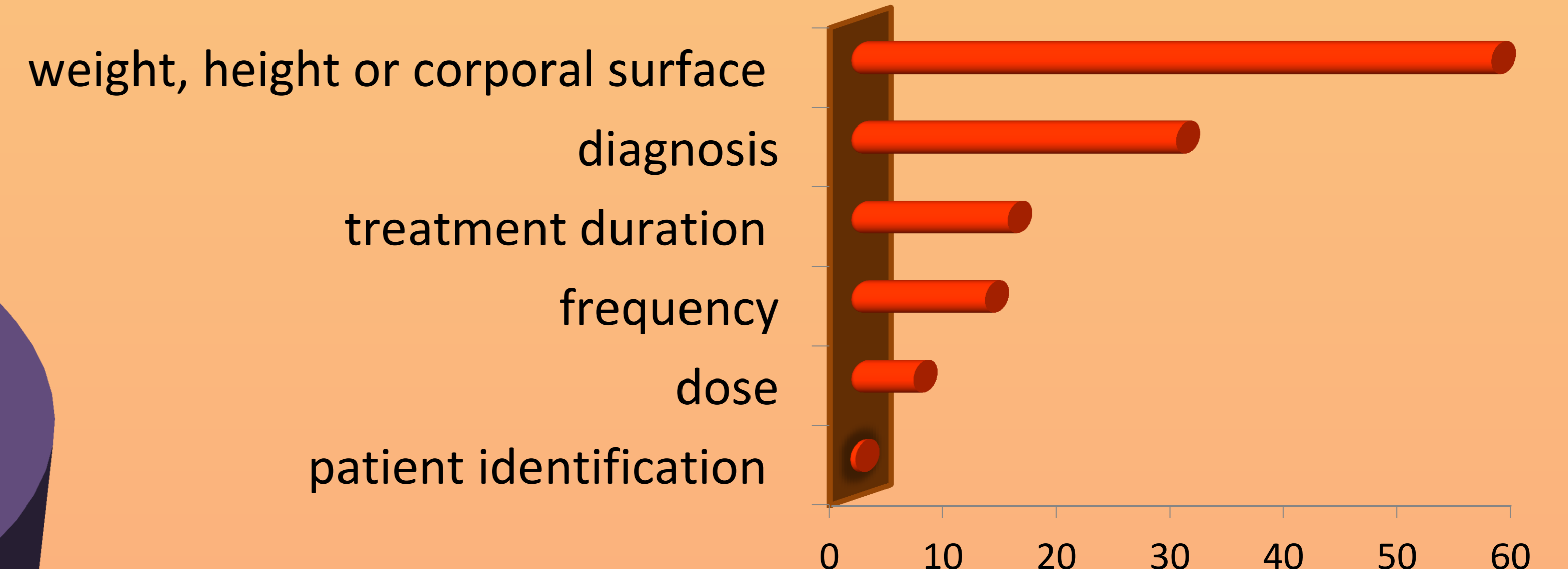
Descriptive prospective study. During two months OCDP of adult patients received in a pharmaceutical outpatient care unit were analyzed. OCDP necessary information was defined based on legal rules and international recommendations. We established that omitted or confused information in patient identification (identification number), weight, height and/or corporal surface (in drugs dosed depending on these parameters), diagnosis, treatment duration, dose and frequency of administration, presented serious risk based on possible consequences.

Results

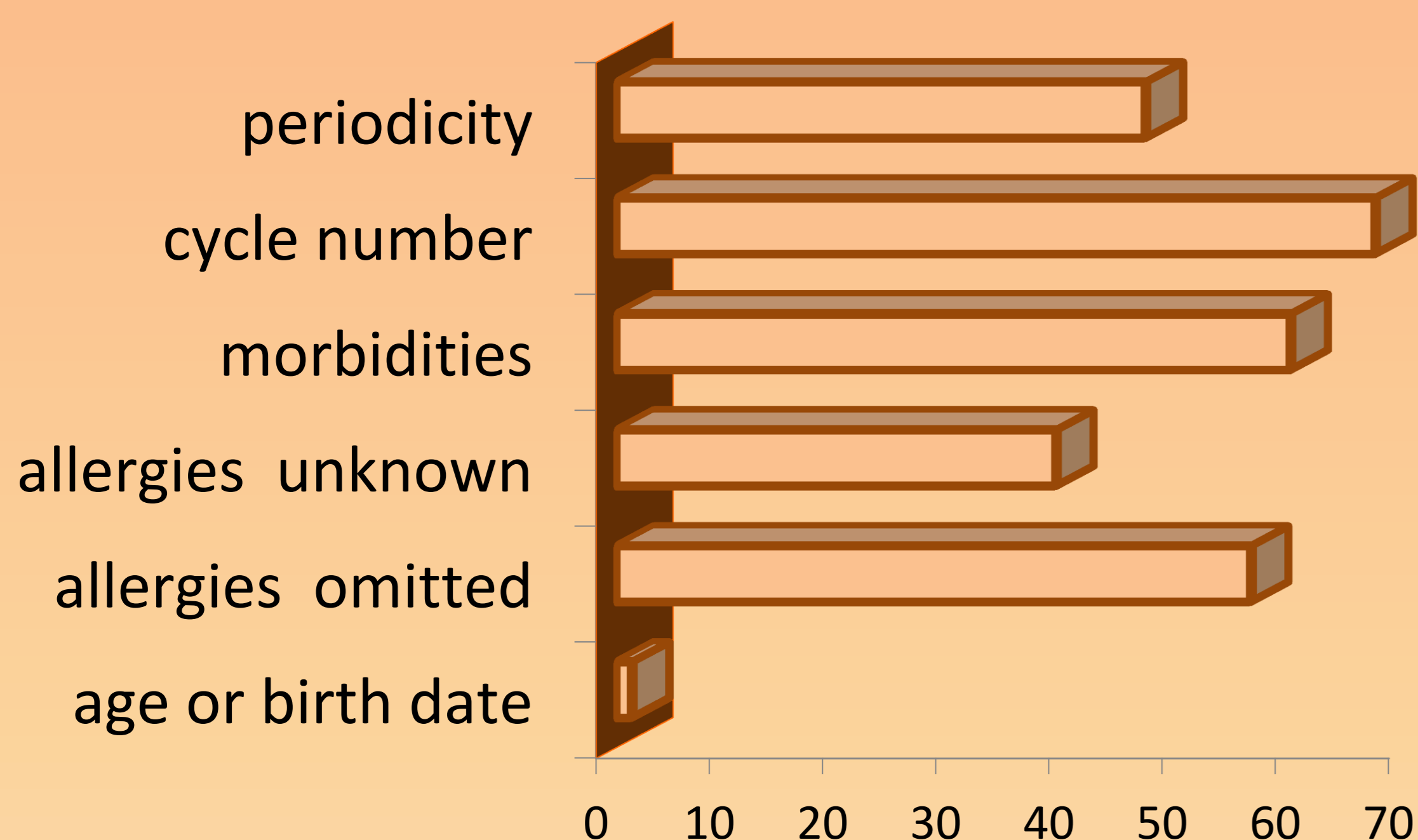
291 prescriptions from 183 patients were analyzed. 100% of prescriptions had almost one omission.



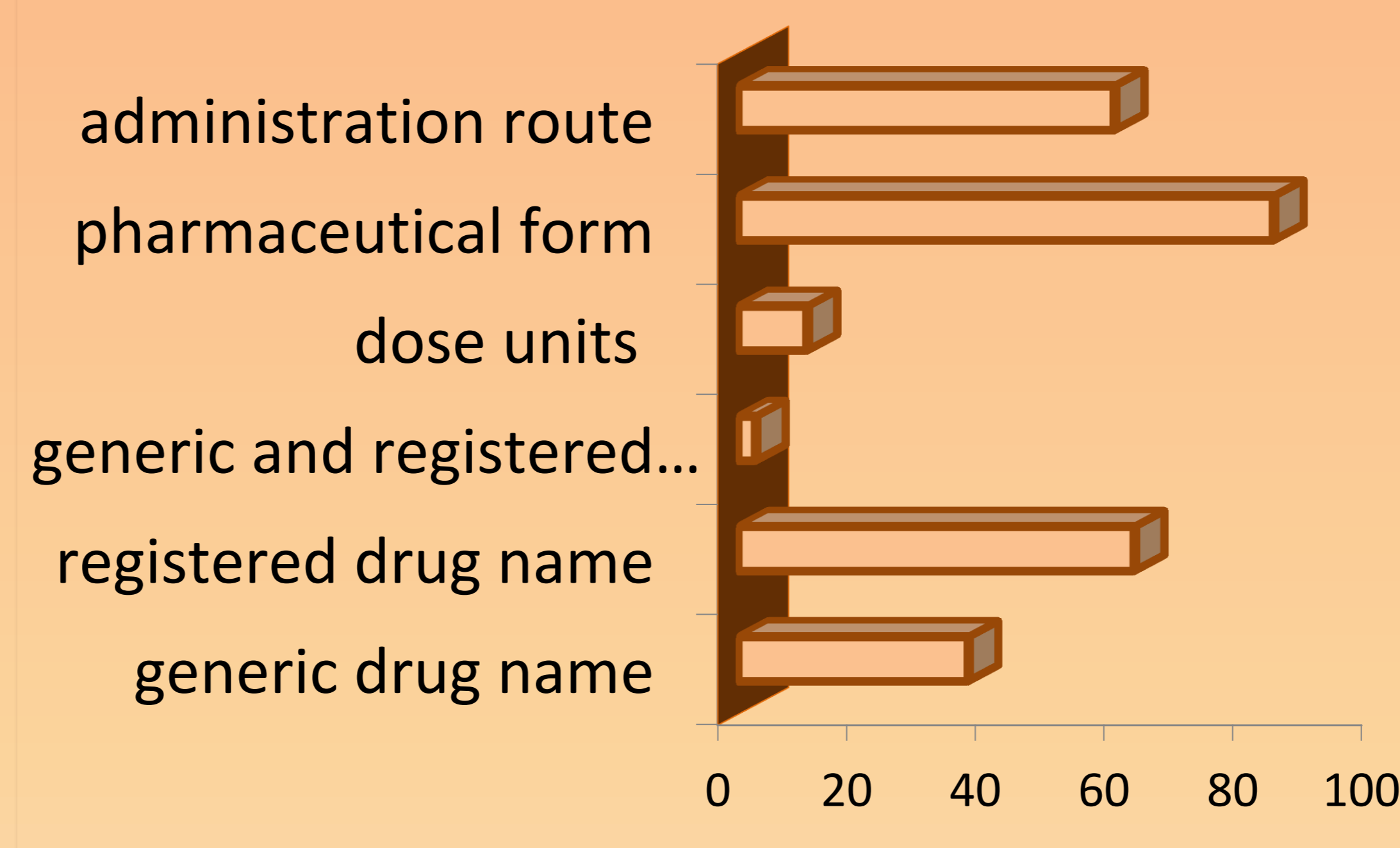
Serious omitted or confused information (% prescriptions)



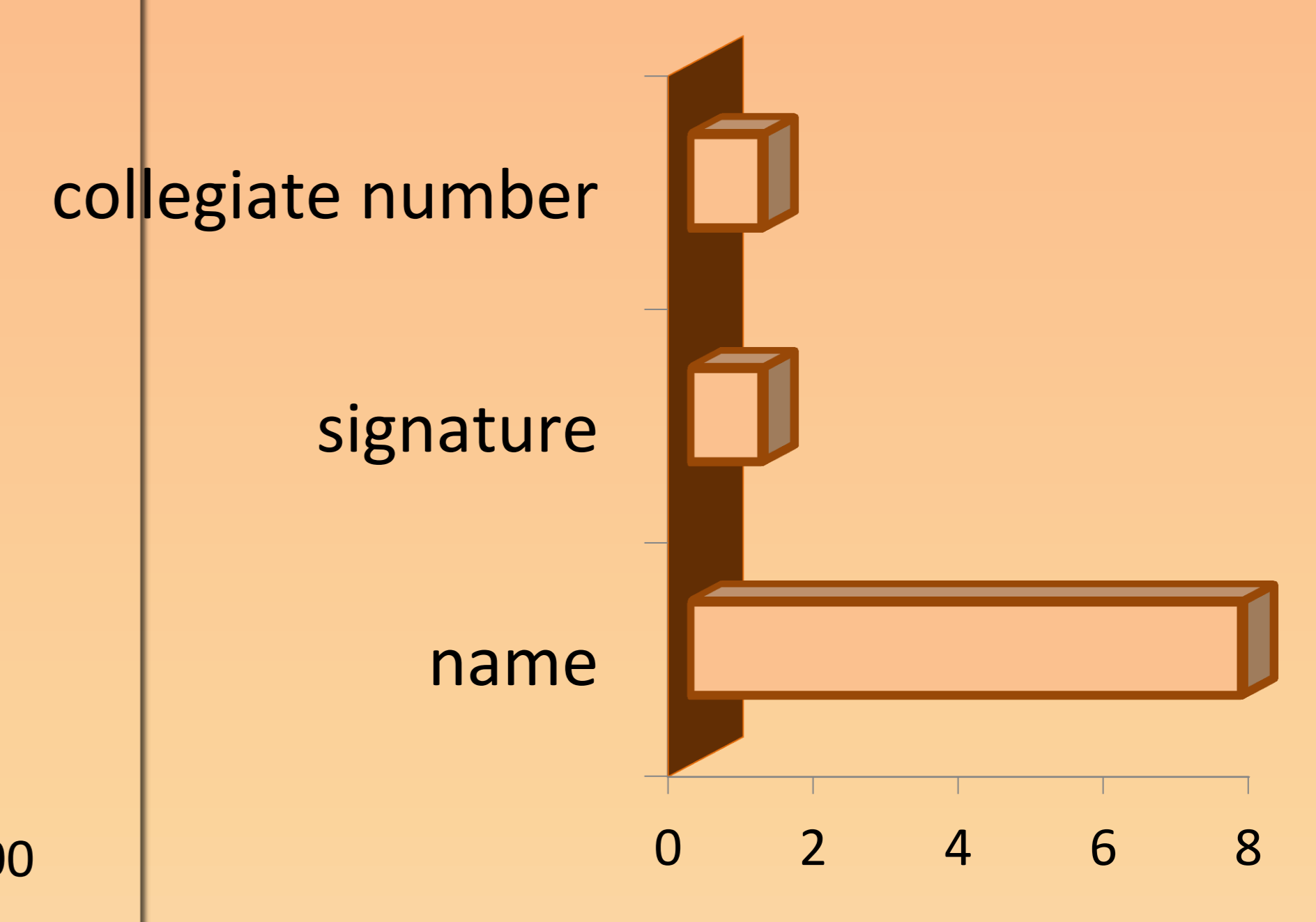
Omitted or confuse patient and treatment information (% prescriptions)



Drug information omitted or confused (% prescriptions)



Physician information omitted or confused (% prescriptions)



Discussion and conclusions

Our results show a high rate of omitted and confused registries in OCDP. Extreme attention during validation process is required in order to prevent ME and AE. New tools, as electronic prescription, pre-printed medical orders or educational programs for prescribers, must be implemented in order to improve OCDP quality.

Acknowledgements

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